(c) The representation will be kept in mind if and when the Act is amended.

Social Clause under WTO

4568. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any social clause has been imposed under the World Trade Organisation (WTO) agreement and some European and other countries have been insisting on labelling various products imported by them, as being "child-labour free" goods;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which our export is likely to be affected therefrom; and

(d) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b). No, Sir. However, due to certain media exposure on the subject of child labour, consumers in some developed countries, including in Europe, have been purchasing products labelled as being "child labour free".

(c) It is not possible to make any such assessment.

(d) Government has introduced a label "Kaleen" for carpets made without child labour.

[Translation]

Supply of Coal to Power Plants

4569. SHRI N.J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the power plants of Gujarat are still being supplied irregularly and inferior quality of coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some complaints have been received in this regard from July 15, 1996 till date;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken for ensuring regular supply of good quality of coal to the power plants in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) to (e). The details of linkages vis-a-vis supply of coal to the power houses in the State of Gujarat during the period April-July, 1996 are given below:-

	(In '000 tonnes)
Linkage	6145
Supply	4563

Normal supplies of coal to the Gujarat power stations got regulated to the extent of advance payments paid by Gujarat Electricity Board (GEB).

The Thermal Power Stations by and large have been supplied agreed quality of coal for which their boilers are designed. Generally the complaints regarding quality of coal being supplied to the power houses relate to the presence of extraneous material in coal as also supply of over-sized coal. These complaints are examined on the merit of each case and corrective action is taken to redress the grievances of the consumers.

In order to bring down the quality complaints, steps like installation of feeder breakers, segregation of stones at the time of loading of coal, better supervision and encouraging the consumers to post their representatives at the loading point for quality loading are taken by the coal companies.

[English]

Foreign Assistance for the Development of Projects

4570. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total foreign assistance provided by the Union Government for the development of various projects of Bihar and Maharashtra during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of projects, State-wise; and

(c) the present position of these projects, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The total foreign assistance provided by the Union Government for the development of various projects of Bihar and Maharashtra in the form of Additional Central Assistance (ACA) during the last three years is as follows:

(Rs. Crore)

	ACA Released during		
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
(i) Bihar	24.89	72.01	32.02
(ii) Maharashtra	927.56	562.58	721.20